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Kim Blum
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Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Christopher A. MICHALUK)
Application No.: 10/042,549) Docket No.: CPM00029CIP(3600-328-01)
Filed: January 9, 2002) Examiner: A. Oltmans
Group Art Unit: 1742) Confirmation No.: 5470

For: TANTALUM AND NIOBIUM BILLETS AND METHODS OF PRODUCING THE SAME

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

August 28, 2003

Sir:

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated April 28, 2003, for which the Examiner has set a three-month period for response. A Petition for a One-Month Extension of Time and the requisite fee are submitted herewith, thus making the response due on or before August 28, 2003.

The amendments to the specification begin at page 2 of this paper.

The amendments to the claims begin at page 3 of this paper.

The amendments to the Drawings begin at page 14 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks/Arguments begin at page 15 of this paper.

An Appendix including amended drawing figures is attached following page 23 of this paper.

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DATE: August 28, 2003

TO: Examiner A. Oltmans
Group Art Unit 1742
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RE: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/042,549
For: TANTALUM AND NIOBIUM BILLETS AND METHODS OF
PRODUCING THE SAME
Our Ref: CPM00029CIP(3600-328-01)

FROM: Luke A. Kilyk, Esq. *LK*

FAC. TEL. NO.: 1-703-872-9310

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET): 28

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Kim Blum

Name of Person signing Certificate

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